



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/828,341	04/05/2001	Joseph L. Burquist	10004362-1	5252

7590 02/08/2005

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER
PHAM, THIERRY L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2624	

DATE MAILED: 02/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/828,341	BURQUIST ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Thierry L Pham	2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/16/02, 3/8/04</u> .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-5, 12-13, 21 & 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by OuYang et al (U.S. 6377758).

Regarding claim 1, OuYang discloses a system for verifying (verification system, fig. 1) a document comprising:

- first means (image source 101, fig. 1 and fig. 6) for providing a first electronic image of a document;
- second means (printer 105, fig. 1 and fig. 6) for providing a second electronic image of a document; and
- third means (control unit 103 includes a comparator for comparing printed image with original image, fig. 1 and figs. 3-8, abstract and col. 2, lines 1-20, cols. 5-6) for comparing said first and second electronic images and providing an output in response thereto.

Regarding claim 2, OuYang further discloses the invention of claim 1 wherein said second image is derived from said first image (figs. 3-8, cols. 5-6).

Regarding claim 3, OuYang further discloses the invention of claim 1 wherein said second means includes a scanner (scanner, fig. 1 and fig. 6).

Regarding claim 4, OuYang further discloses the invention of claim 3 wherein said second means includes a printer (printer, fig. 1 and fig. 6).

Regarding claim 5, OuYang further discloses the invention of claim 4 wherein said scanner is mounted to scan a document printed by said printer to provide said second image (second scanner, fig. 1 and fig. 6).

Regarding claims 12-13, OuYang further discloses the invention of claim 1 wherein said first means includes a personal computer (computer, fig. 6) via a network (network, fig. 1 and fig. 6).

Regarding claims 21, 35 recite limitations that are similar and in the same scope of invention as to those in claim 1 above; therefore, claim 21,35 are rejected for the same rejection rationale/basis as described in claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 10-11, 14-20, 26--34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over OuYang as described in claim 1 above, and in view of Yamaguchi et al (U.S. 5390003).

Regarding claims 10-11, OuYang does not expressly disclose wherein a printing system including means for detecting print restriction and to disable the printing of confidential contents.

Yamaguchi, in the same field of endeavor for printing system, teaches a means for detecting print restriction and to disable the printing of confidential contents (image forming apparatus includes means for preventing and prohibiting confidential contents such as money to be reproduced, abstract and cols. 2-4).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify OuYang as per teachings of Yamaguchi because of a following reason: (1) to prevent unauthorized reproduction of confidential contents/documents (Yamaguchi, abstract and cols. 2-4).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine OuYang with Yamaguchi to obtain the invention as specified in claims 10-11.

Regarding claim 14, Yamaguchi further discloses communication network is Internet (fig. 4). Internet communications are widely available and known in the art.

Regarding claims 15-17, Yamaguchi further discloses wherein said software is stored in memory in scanner, computer, and printer (it is known in the art that all scanners, printers, and computers contain storage memory for storing computer programs, figs. 4-5, cols. 2-4).

Regarding claims 18-20, OuYang further discloses converting image into text (cols. 5-8). In addition, OCRs (converting image into texts) are widely known in the art and admitted by the applicant.

Regarding claims 26-27 recite limitations that are similar and in the same scope of invention as to those in claims 10-11 above; therefore, claims 26-27 are rejected for the same rejection rationale/basis as described in claims 10-11.

Regarding claims 28-29 recite limitations that are similar and in the same scope of invention as to those in claims 14 above; therefore, claims 28-29 are rejected for the same rejection rationale/basis as described in claims 14.

Regarding claims 30-34 recite limitations that are similar and in the same scope of invention as to those in claims 16-20 above; therefore, claims 30-34 are rejected for the same rejection rationale/basis as described in claims 16-20.

5. Claims 6-8, 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over OuYang as described in claims 1-5 above, and in view of Bolle et al (U.S. 5963656).

Regarding claim 6, OuYang does not expressly disclose a verification system includes means for adding a fingerprint to an image.

Bolle, in the same field of endeavor for verification system, teaches a verifying includes means for adding a fingerprint to an image (fig. 7 shows a verification system for adding a fingerprint taking by camera 760 onto the document, col. 5, lines 18-28).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify OuYang as per teachings of Bolle because of a following reason: (1) to add more security to the confidential documents by incorporating fingerprints onto the documents.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine OuYang with Bolle to obtain the invention as specified in claim 6.

Regarding claim 7, Bolle further teaches means for printing said fingerprint on said document (documents with fingerprint, col. 5, lines 18-28).

Regarding claim 8, Bolle further teaches a scanner is adapted to scan said fingerprint and provide a fingerprint output signal in response thereto (scanner 765, fig. 7).

Regarding claims 22-24 recite limitations that are similar and in the same scope of invention as to those in claims 6-8 above; therefore, claims 22-24 are rejected for the same rejection rationale/basis as described in claims 6-8.

6. Claims 9 & 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over OuYang and Bolle as described in claims 6-8 and 22-24 above, and further in view of Yamaguchi et al (U.S. 5390003).

Regarding claims 9 & 25, the combinations of OuYang and Bolle does not teach a means responsive for inhibiting printer.

Art Unit: 2624

Yamaguchi, in the same field of endeavor for verification system, teaches a means responsive for inhibiting printer (abstract, cols. 2-4).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify OuYang and Bolle as per teachings of Yamaguchi because of a following reason: (1) to prevent unauthorized reproduction of confidential contents/documents (Yamaguchi, abstract and cols. 2-4).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine OuYang with Yamaguchi to obtain the invention as specified in claims 9 & 25.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patents/publications are relevant to applicant's disclosure invention.

- U.S. 6515755 to Hasegawa, teaches an image processing system for preventing/prohibiting confidential contents/documents from reproduced.
- U.S. 5974447 to Cannon et al, teaches a communication system includes OCR and Internet.
- U. S. 6275600 to Banker et al, teaches a method for comparing printed images with original images.

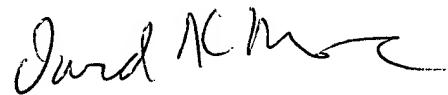
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thierry L Pham whose telephone number is (703) 305-1897. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:30 AM - 6:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K Moore can be reached on (703)308-7452. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2624

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Thierry L. Pham



DAVID MOORE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 21